

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MASSACHUSETTS LIFE SCIENCES CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
December 14, 2022

Hybrid: In-person at MLSC Offices and Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Call to Order

Mark Fuller, presiding as chairperson of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center (the “MLSC” or “Center”) called the meeting to order. The meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with its business. Members Mr. Fuller, Ms. Hornby, Dr. Chen, Mr. Abelson, Dr. Kearney were present in person, Member Ms. Randawha was connected virtually

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the October 26, 2022 Board meeting. Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the Board approved the minutes.

Chairs’ Updates

Mark Fuller, *Undersecretary of Business Growth*, Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development

Mr. Fuller stated that the Administration, and specifically the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development remains focused on smooth transition and finishing out the month and early January to tie up programs and year end reports to legislature. Mr. Fuller further reported that the Board was able to reach an extension of employment with CEO to June 2025.

Catharine Hornby, *Undersecretary*, Executive Office for Administration and Finance

Ms. Hornby confirmed that transfer of CNS has occurred since the last meeting. Ms. Hornby further reported that the Executive Office of Administration and Finance is also working on a smooth transition to the new administration.

CEO Report

Kenneth Turner, *President & CEO, MLSC*

Since this is the last meeting of the board before the new administration takes office, Mr. Turner gave an overview of the work accomplished by the center in the past 8 years under the Baker Administration. Mr. Turner expressed heartfelt gratitude to the designated co-chairs, and their partnership over the years in support of the Center.

Financial Update

Peter Breiling, *Vice President of Finance, MLSC*

Mr. Breiling began by providing an overview of the financial status of MLSC through October of 2022. Mr. Breiling reported that the operating expenses were 17% below budget, mostly as a result of open staff positions. The Investment fund budget and forecast was then presented, through current programs launched. There were no questions from the Board regarding the Financial Update.

VOTE: 2023-24 Internship Challenge

Ryan Mudawar, *Vice President of Education & Workforce Programs, MLSC*

Mr. Mudawar presented, requesting authorization to run all three internship programs. The first

presentation was on the Internship Challenge. Mr. Mudawar presented the MLSC proposal for the 2023-2024 Internship Challenge program, beginning with the an overview of the internship challenge program and eligibility requirements. Mr. Mudawar provided a summary of internship statistics from 2009 to present, and statistics on host organization was also presented to highlight the sector and geographic distribution of host companies participating in the program. Mr. Mudawar informed the Board that MLSC is proposing a pay-rate increase for the 2023-2024 program year from \$17/hour to \$20/hr. Mr. Mudawar concluded the presentation by requesting authorization of \$3.7 Million for the next round of the program, to support around 500 internships.

The floor was then opened the floor for questions. The Board discussed the importance of in-person or hybrid internships over fully remote, to cultivate meaningful experiences. Mr. Mudawar confirmed the program requires in-person or hybrid internships, and fully-remote internship opportunities were not deemed eligible to participate in the program.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to authorize the expenditure of monies in an amount not to exceed three million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$3,700,000) for the Internship Challenge as presented to the Board.

VOTE: 2023-24 High School Apprenticeship Challenge

Ryan Mudawar, *Vice President of Education & Workforce Programs, MLSC*

Mr. Mudawar presented the MLSC proposal for the 2023-2024 High School Apprenticeship Challenge program and pre-internship lab training program. Mr. Mudawar gave an overview of program, including the pre-internship lab training and the internships. Mr. Mudawar stated the MLSC is requesting authorization for \$650,000 for the 2023-2024 program year, and then opened the floor for questions.

The Board discussed the types of internships involved, and Mr. Mudawar provided information that the internship must be at a life sciences company, but not necessarily in a lab or science-specific role. The Board inquired about data collected over first 7 rounds of the program, and the impact the program has had on promoting pursuit of education in STEM and STEM career post-graduation. Mr. Mudawar assured the board that data is being collected and analyzed to measure impact.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to authorize the expenditure of an amount of six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000) for the High School Apprenticeship Challenge as presented to the Board.

VOTE: 2023-24 Data Science Internship Program

Ryan Mudawar, *Vice President of Education & Workforce Programs, MLSC*

Mr. Mudawar presented on the Data Science Internship program, which is the newest of the internship programs, and the proposal for the 2023-2024 program. Mr. Mudawar began the presentation with an overview of the program and eligibility criteria – including intern criteria as well as host criteria. Mr. Mudawar stated that the program is critical to attract and retain data science talent in MA and steering them toward life science employment opportunities. Mr. Mudawar informed the Board that MLSC is requesting authorization for \$500,000 for the 2023-2024 program year, and opened the floor for questions.

The Board discussed how many applications to internships awarded there were in the first two years of the program. The Board also asked if there are pre-determined metrics used to measure the movement of the interns into life sciences companies after the internship. Mr. Mudawar confirmed we collect data on whether the intern was hired fulltime and if not if the intern was hired into another life sciences companies. The Board discussed the importance of collecting data to show measurable results.

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried by roll call vote, the Board resolved to authorize the expenditure of monies in an amount not to exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for the Data Science Internship Program as presented to the Board with a commitment by the MLSC to actively work to secure matching funds from other sources

Update: UNCF Ernest E. Just Internship Program

*Diego Aviles, Vice President of Development, Northeast Division, UNCF
Jaden Maloney, 2022 EEJ Intern, Intellia Therapeutics, Inc.*

Mr. Aviles was invited to share the mission and goal of the UNCF. Mr. Aviles presented on the highlights of the Summer 2022 Ernest E. Just UNCF internship program “UNCF Lighted Pathways”. Jaden Maloney then provided his insights on participating in the Summer 2022 EEJ UNCF Internship program; currently a biomedical engineering junior at George Washington University. Mr. Maloney informed the Board that he interned at Intellia Therapeutics, and reported that it was a very rewarding internship experience.

Workforce Partnerships Update

Jeanne LeClair, Senior Director of Business Development and Workforce Partnerships, MLSC

Ms. LeClair provided an update on the workforce partnership initiative, which began in response to discussions with industry partners that have the challenge of meeting the need for talent and the gaps in the pipeline for that talent. Ms. LeClair reported that MLSC is working with Renew program with Commonwealth Corporation. Ms. LeClair informed the Board that the initiative is partnering with vocational technical schools and community colleges, to match curriculum with training needed to meet the gaps in talent experienced by the employer, and engaging directly with the employer. Ms. LeClair stated that the goal is to scale the program, and put together longer training programs. Ms. LeClair gave an overview of the engagement process for companies, and provided a summary of plans for the program and scaling, sharing resources through a “workforce navigator”, including information on training providers, companies, and jobseekers/students. Ms. LeClair then gave a brief “compare and contrast” to similar programs in other states and concluded with a brief overview of next steps for the initiative.

There being no further business before the board, the meeting adjourned at 3:58pm

Materials used during Meeting:

- Agenda
- CEO Update Presentation
- Draft Minutes from October 26, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting
- Presentation: Financial Update
- Presentation: FY2023-24 Internship Challenge
- Presentation: FY2023-24 High School Apprenticeship Challenge Program
- Presentation: FY 2023-24 Data Science Internship Program
- Presentation: Workforce Partnerships Update
- Guest Presentation: UNCF Ernest E. Just Internship Program